MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

31 DECEMBER 1981

Libya-Saudi Arabia

JANA and SPA carried statements issued by the Libyan People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and the Saudi Foreign Ministry, respectively, announcing that Libya and Saudi Arabia have decided to restore diplomatic relations in order to eliminate differences, repair the rift in Arab relations and unify Arab action against the common enemy.

Iran - Iraq Conflict

Iranian Comment on Mediation Efforts -- Tehran radio's Arabic service reported that Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati left on a visit to Syria. Before leaving, Velayati stated that the purpose of his visit was to express Iran's support for Syria against Israel's "annexation" of the Golan Heights, Tehran radio said. Asked about reports that the Syrians will attempt to mediate to end the Iraqi-Iranian war, Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi replied that the conflict will be resolved on the battlefronts and that Iran will not change its position, which it has announced many times, Tehran radio reported. He added that Velayati will explain the Iranian position to Syria and will mention the recent Iranian victories. Tehran radio also noted a statement by the Foreign Ministry spokesman denying that Iran had received any official word from Syria that the discussions during Velayati's visit would touch on efforts to end the war.

Meanwhile, KUNA reported that Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah had received a message from the Iranian foreign minister. Noting an official announcement that the message concerned Kuwaiti-Iranian relations, KUNA observed that it probably dealt with Kuwaiti-Syrian efforts to end the Iraqi-Iranian war.

Saddam Husayn Speech -- In a speech to the Popular Army reported by INA, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn pledged that Iraq will continue fighting Iran until Iranian Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni learns not to "covet" Iraq. He asserted that as long as the Iranian rulers are intransigent, aggressive and expansionist, the Iraqi people will be unyielding. Iran, he added, will have to pay with thousands of lives and in the end Iraq will win.

Military Situation -- An Iranian Joint Staff communique, broadcast by Tehran radio, reported that in two clashes in the Gilan-e Gharb area, Iraq suffered 280 casualties. It also reported a clash in the Ilam area in which 50 Iraqis died. The communique claimed Iranian Air Force planes bombed an Iraqi supply base in the Jofeyr area. For its part, Baghdad radio carried an Iraqi Armed Forces communique reporting large-scale clashes in the Sumar and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab regions in which more than 350 Iranians died.

Iraq - Israel

An Iraqi military spokesman's statement carried by INA announced that Iraqi fighters intercepted two Israeli F-15's overflying western Iraq and forced them to flee. All the Iraqi planes returned safely to base, according to the statement. IDF radio reported that the IDF spokesman refused to comment on the Iraqi statement.

According to INA, the Iraqi paper ATH-THAWRAH published an editorial on the incident asserting that it demonstrated Israeli-Iranian coordination and was intended to make up for Iranian defeats in the war with Iraq.

Israel

Shamir Remarks -- In a speech to the Herut Movement's youth wing reported by ITIM, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated that Israel must make it clear to the world that in return for its concessions and "sacrifices" over the Sinai, Israel will insist that the West Bank and Golan Heights remain within Israeli borders. He added that Israel had reached the limit of its concessions in the Camp David accords and "there will be no further concessions." Shamir also expressed concern about Egypt's policy since the death of President Anwar as-Sadat and noted that Israel must be cautious for a few years to make sure that the peace with Egypt will endure.

ITIM also reported that in a speech to the Agudat Yisra'el Executive Council, Shamir said Israel would be ready to enter into negotiations with Syria at any time without preconditions, provided a government is established in Syria that desires peace.

Sharon on Sinai Evacuation -- According to DAVAR, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon told the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee that although the Sinai evacuation will take place "near" the final deadline, the Egyptians must understand that "there are things that must be done" before the evacuation, failing which the evacuation will not take place.

Jordan

Amman radio reported that King Husayn met with U.S. Senator Charles Percy for talks on the Middle East question and international issues. In a comment on the talks reviewed by Amman radio, AR-RA'Y said the U.S. view that Arab recognition of Israel is the key to peace puts the cart before the horse: The real key is Israel's recognition of the Palestinian people's rights and its withdrawal from the occupied territories. The paper said Israel's alleged violation of Iraqi airspace while Senator Percy was in Israel was not only a provocative act but also showed how Israel belittles the importance of the U.S. role in the Middle East.

Afghanistan

A DRA Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman, in a statement broadcast by Kabul radio, denounced U.S. President Ronald Reagan's recent statement on Afghanistan as open interference in Afghanistan's affairs. He added that such "irresponsible" statements are indicative of the U.S. administration's "greedy desires" and asserted that no one has the right to speak on behalf of the Afghan people or dictate the type of government they should have.

Turkey

Head of state Gen Kenan Evren, in a message broadcast by Ankara radio, announced that if the Consultative Assembly completes a new constitution by the end of the summer of 1982, it will be submitted to a referendum by the end of November 1982 and elections will be held in the autumn of 1983. If the constitution is not completed on time, he added, elections will be postponed until the spring of 1984.

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FATAH'S AL-HASAN INTERVIEWED ON CURRENT ISSUES

PM301513 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 28 Dec 81 p 7

[Khawlah Nazzal interview with Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan -- date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] What is your analysis of the background and dimension of the Israeli decision to annex the Golan Heights?

[Answer] I believe that those who were susprised by Israeli's announcement about annexing the Golan are shortsighted and do not understand the Zionist mentality, the present international conditions and the nature of the U.S.-Israeli alliance. The same can be said about those who were surprised by the strategic cooperation agreement between the United States and the Zionist enemy. Indeed, the annexation of the Golan was a plank in the Likud Party program in the recent election as well as in the Labor Party's election program, although in a different way. In the Likud program it was to take place should the party come to power. In the Labor program it was a proposal to be discussed in the event that the party was returned to power.

Like all the Israeli military leaders, Begin sticks to the principles of the Torah. As Moshe Dayan once said, the Torah is the Israeli command's political and military guide. Therefore, this annexation and what might follow it is part of the Zionist mentality. This confirms for those not yet convinced that the Zionist enemy will not stop achiving his ambitions by force, that nothing can be liberated except by force, that the force required is a national force because the Zionist danger is a national danger and the only way for the Zionist enemy to survive or for us to survive is the elimination of one of the two parties to the conflict.

As for the international situation, the present fragmention in Arab relations was the biggest source of encouragement for the Zionist enemy's annexation of the Golan.

We should emphasize here a fact which is as clear as anything, namely that national danger can be confronted only by a national will and a national stand. Therefore, this Arab fragmentation and the explosion of the situation in Poland convinced the enemy command that the time was opportune to annex the Golan, particularly because when the enemy had previously annexed Jerusalem and declared it the eternal capital of Israel, it was not forced to go back on his decision. This is because words and protests alone do not cancel out the enemy's action. The annexation of Jerusalem was far more serious than the annexation of the Golan, especially if we take into consideration the feelings of the Christian world toward it. If the strong campaign of protests failed to cancel the decision to annex Jerusalem, protests against the Golan annexation, which are no stonger than those expressed against the annexation of Jerusalem, will not either. It would be interesting to point out that there could be certain personal factors in this step. The papers said Begin feels his life in office is coming to an end and therefore wants to complete his plans before the end of his rule. The objective of the annexation could also be intended to say that the cancellation of the decision and the return of the Golan could be done through negotiations, so that the Palestinians will remain alone in the field. This would be followed by the next step, which Knesset member Geula Cohen, the original author of the proposal to annex the Golan, expressed on 21 December when she proposed the annexation of the West Bank and Gaza Sector.

[Question] What is the connection between the failure of Fes summit and this decision?

[Answer] Before answering this question we must define the meaning of the term "failure" and the standard by which it is judged. Like any other meeting, the Fes summit was faced with a draft resolution and either had to accept it as it was or after making amendments, or reject it completely. What is new about the Fes summit is the failure to either approve or reject the draft resolution. A certain conference might agree on something which the adversary, from his standpoint, might consider a failure because it did not agree with his stands. Or the rejection might be considered a failure because it was contrary to the adversary's stand, and acceptance could also be a failure from the adversary's standpoint, but a success as far as the nation is concerned. The conference would be a failure if it failed to express the nation's aspirations and a success if it did so, regardless of whether it were through rejection or acceptance.

The Fes conference had a different and almost unique kind of failure, namely the failure to agree on acceptance or rejection or amendment. It also failed to reach a decision to the effect that the conference had no stand on the matter. The failure was the result of the failure to accept or reject or adopt no stand.

This means an open invitation to the enemies, whether the Zionist enemy or U.S. Government policy or the Western industrialized world in general. It is an invitation to these enemies to realize that the Arab position is weak -- a weakness which enables these enemies to do what they have been waiting to do.

[Question] What do you think is the real U.S. attitude toward the annexation decision?

[Answer] The reaction in Washington, as was clear, was to object and declare the decision illegal. This was exactly what they said about the settlements and about Jerusalem. But in practice their attitude was one of facilitating the annexation of Jerusalem and the building of settlements. The same will apply to the Golan. Some very optimistic people probably doubt such a thing on the grounds that Washington has for the first time accepted a phrase condemning Israel and that this will lead to the cancellation of the decision. But this is a bad situation, because at the next Security Council meeting Washington will refuse the imposition of economic sanctions on Israel. U.S. officials have already launched a media campaign of justification, as if believing what we believed -- that this U.S. anger was because Begin did not consult the United States before unilaterally deciding on the annexation. U.S. officials are saying they object both to the timing and to the action itself.

[Question] Do you believe that the Syrian-Soviet treaty accelerated the Israeli decision?

[Answer] I do not think so at all, although the Zionist enemy is accustomed in every Arab situation where Arab solidarity or an Arab alliance with a friendly state exists to taking some action in the face of which this solidarity or alliance is helpless -- in which case this solidarity or alliance is subverted morally and psychologically. The Soviets will not fight on our behalf and they are not expected to do so. Also, the Syrian-Soviet treaty includes support for Syria in defending itself. The annexation as far as the policy of international treaties is concerned is not considered a direct military attack; it is part of the political aggression which the Soviet Union counters by giving political support to Syria and rejecting the Israeli stand.

[Question] Can the Gulf states give effective support to Syria in view of the Iranian threat to these countries?

[Answer] Yes, they can. These countries have never abandoned support for Syria or any other confrontation state, but such support is subject to the means available.

[Question] What information does the Palestinian revolution have regarding the truth about armament relations between Israel and Iran?

[Answer] Unfortunately this information is true, and the details have been published in the world press.

[Question] How much can Syria, Libya, South Yemen, Algeria and the PLO do collectively to stop the Iran-Iraq war, and what are, in your view, the effects of this war that has lasted so long?

[Answer] There is no such possibility. As for the war itself, it is to be noted that it is the only war which the major powers have made no serious efforts to stop. It is as if there were an agreement that it should go on.

[Question] How do you feel about the recent sabotage conspiracy in Bahrain?

[Answer] As an individual, in this inhuman situation, I can but denounce this conspiracy and those who stand behind it because, had it succeeded, God forbid, its effects would not have been confined to Bahrain. Anarchy would have spread and could have led to war throughout the area. It is an irresponsible action in the interest neither of the area nor of the country that was behind the planning and preparation of the conspiracy. But God has been protective.

FATAH'S NIMR SALIH CONVALESCES IN FRANCE

NC300921 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] Brother Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], a member of the Fatah Central Committee, has received a number of visitors in the hospital after undergoing delicate surgery in the town of (?Grenoble), France. Among his visitors was the area's governor, who conveyed to him greetings from French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson. (Bourdot), the mayor of the town and a member of the French National Assembly, also visited him and conveyed greetings from the French Socialist Party, his town and the municipal council. He presented him with a portrait of the city as a souvenir on his recovery.

Brother Abu Salih received his visitors in the presence of Brother Abu Musa, Fateh Revolutionary Council member, and Brother Ibrahim as-Sus, head of the PLO office in France.

GULF AFFAIRS

GULF COUNCIL OFFICIAL STRESSES ECONOMIC UNITY

GF301205 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1114 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] Kuwait, 30 Dec (WAKH) -- Dr 'Abdallah Quwayz, Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] assistant secretary general for economic affairs, has said the implementation of the economic agreement between the six GCC countries means the beginning of a joint Gulf market that will work for a comprehensive political and economic unity.

In this regard, the GCC official said the agreement -- whose organization structure will be laid down by the GCC industry and finance ministers in their conference scheduled for 26 January -- aims at achieving a homogenous national economic plan among the GCC countries and at outlining comprehensive planning in the future.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper AS-SIYASAH published today, Mr Quwayz said if the agreement achieves its goals, it will mean the exemption of customs fees among the six countries, putting up a Gulf customs barrier for foreign products, unifying bank regulations in the region, coining a unified Gulf currency and laying down the framework for a Gulf investments policy abroad.

The GCC official added that the GCC countries are trying to ensure the success of the joint Gulf experiment because they are convinced that the current age of technology is the age of economic blocs.

Dr Quwayz said the GCC wants to put forward an oil strategy to coordinate the policy of its countries in the oil industry in its various stages -- oil extraction, refining, marketing, pricing, natural gas exploitation and developing sources of energy.

KUWAIT

FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM IRAN

LD301614 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1427 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 30 Dec (KUNA) -- Acting Kuwaiti Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah today received a message from Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati. The message most probably concerns Kuwaiti-Syrian efforts to find a formula for an initiative which will settle the Iraqi-Iranian conflict by ending the war between the two Islamic Gulf states.

However, an official Kuwaiti announcement said the message concerns bilateral relations and Iran's desire to improve relations with Kuwait. No details are available regarding the topics which [Iranian] Ambassador 'Ali Shams Ardakani discussed with Shaykh as-Sabah during their meeting earlier today.

A Kuwaiti official spokesman -- the acting minister of state for Cabinet affairs, Dr 'Abd ar-Rahman al-'Awadi -- last Sunday reaffirmed that both Kuwait and Syria, during the recent visit of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to Kuwait, agreed to make joint efforts to end the Iraqi-Iranian war. In Damascus it was announced that Minister Velayati would be visiting the Syrian capital tomorrow to discuss with Syrian officials the Kuwaiti-Syrian joint efforts to end the Gulf war which has continued since September 1980.

SAUDI ARABIA

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS TO BE RESTORED WITH LIBYA

LD311020 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0850 GMT 31 Dec 81

[Text] Riyadh, 31 Dec (SPA) -- The Foreign Ministry issued the following statement today:

Out of their anxiousness to cast away differences, to repair the rift in Arab relations and to unify Arab action against the common enemy, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah have decided to restore diplomatic relations.

PDRY

UNITY DELEGATES DESCRIBE CONSTITUTION MEETING

EA301550 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] The members of the southern delegation of the joint constitutional committee for the two parts of the homeland, led by Brother Abdallah Ahmad al-Ghanim, Central Committee candidate member and secretary of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, returned to Aden this afternoon at the end of the 13th session of the constitutional committee in San'a'.

The joint committee of the two parts of the homeland yesterday morning completed the draft constitution for the unified state. The signing of the draft constitution and the final statement took place in a fraternal atmosphere. They were signed for the south by Brother Abadallah Ahmad al-Ghanim and for the north by Brother Husayn al-Hubayshi. The signing ceremony was also attended by Brother Ahmad ash-Shijni, the minister of state for People's Constituent Assembly affairs.

After the signing of the draft unity constitution, the leaders of both sides expressed their gratification at the completion of the draft constitution for the unified state.

Brother Abadallah Ahmad al-Ghanim said the results of the session are highly important. He said the completion of the draft unity constitution is a major step forward in the efforts for unity being made by both parts of the homeland. He said the joint constituional committee has submitted a message to the Yemeni Council [words indistinct] draft constitution.

The southern delegation left San'a' this afternoon and was seen off by Brother Ahmad ash-Shijni, together with the leader and members of the northern delegation.

The committee issued a statement expressing approval of the work of the subcommittees and of the completion of the draft constitution [words indistinct]. The committee said it regards itself as being in session whenever circumstances or the Yemeni Council demand.

AL-AHRAM URGES EXPLOITATION OF NEW U.S. POSITION

PM290801 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 20 Dec 81 p 7

[Ihsan Bakr article: "Before the Arab Foreign Ministers Meet, Let Us Agree on a Unified Stand"]

[Text] As soon as the UN Security Council issued its unanimous resolution nullifying the Israeli decision [to annex the Golan Heights] and calling on the Israeli Government to rescind its decision, Israeli's UN delegate stood up to declare that his government will not abide by the council's resolution which, he said, constitutes a form of interference in the affiars of a sovereign state.

So, in complete defiance of world public opinion, Israel has at a stroke made a fundamental change in the geography and borders of the states in the region, completely disregarding all international pacts and treaties.

The world has condemned such foolish and irresponsible attitudes, but at this critical stage in the history of the Middle East traditional methods and customary diplomatic approaches are futile. Israel is well aware of the Arab reality and knows perfectly well the limits of Arab anger and of possible Arab moves. Israel plans all its moves on the basis of its knowledge of the Arab blocs and differences. It knows only too well that the U.S. attitude will not go beyond words of condemnation unless there is a unified Arab plan in the face of danger.

In all objectivity, the situation now transcends the present Arab, European and U.S. realities and calls for a coordinated Arab move to cope with it and a moment of thruthful and honest self-scrutiny.

We acknowledge the importance of the condemnation by the UN General Assembly and Security Council. It is, however, only realistic to say that Israel will not change its policy unless there is a real change in the present Arab situation.

Neither will the Golan Heights return to Syria nor Palestine return to its people unless a decision comes from us -- unless there is an Arab decision based on sound Arab vision, on a united stand and designated roles and, above all, on an accurate knowledge of the balance of power and Western and U.S. interests throughout our Arab region.

What is required now, before anything else, is that Syria must not be left alone to decide and adopt a stand against a danger that threatens us all in the region. The Arab foreign ministers scheduled to meet in Tunis are requested to make a rational and studied decision that would safeguard the nation rather than lose it in the labyrinths of condemnation and denunciation.

Before Israel's decision to annex the Golan Heights the United States signed a strategic alliance agreement with Israel. It was said at the time that the purpose of the agreement was to ward off foreign threats to the State of Israel. The question now addressed to the U.S. administration is: How will the United States behave in the face of this flagrant attempt to torpedo all efforts to establish a comprehensive peace?

The recent U.S. decision suspending indefinitely the strategic cooperation agreement with Israel and preventing Israel from using U.S. funds allocated for its military development deserves attention and praise. It denotes the beginning of a radical change in U.S. policy toward Israeli practices which pose a threat to the attainment of a comprehensive and lasting peace ensuring the right of all states in the region to live peacefully within secure and recognized borders.

The Arab capitals are called upon to develop their attitudes and exploit the new U.S. position. We are convinced that more than one Arab capital can play the newly expected role with the Reagan administration, in accordance with a line agreed to and binding on all and defining the minimum and maximum limits of the desired plan.

The Arab leaders who will meet in Tunis are the same Arab leaders who earlier met in Fes, Morocco. What we fear most is that the Tunis resolutions might turn out to be similar to the Fes resolutions. The loss of the opportunity available at Fes was indeed grave. At that time the whole world welcomed Fahd's peace plan. Europe moved and declared support for the Saudi Plan. The elements of reason and common interests governed the European attitude. Suddenly the sound of Arab anger drowned the sound of reason and, to the cries of rejection, the possible was lost to the impossible and we were set back several steps.

The least we can say about the situation today is to note that these are really fateful moments. The Arab nation is requested to be honest with itself and to answer this fundamental question: What do we want and how can we achieve it? The solution will never come from outside our area. It must be an Arab solution stemming from a collective Arab will.

Will we move and will we agree before the label "nation of lost opportunities" becomes a reality? The thing we fear most is that we might become a nation whose oil and dollars are dearer to it than the blood and dignity of its people.

PRESIDENT MUBARAK RECEIVES ROMANIAN ENVOY

AU201400 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1100 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] An exchange of messages took place in Cairo between Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt. On behalf of the Romanian head of state warm, friendly greetings and best wishes for personal health and happiness, and for new successes for the friendly Egyptian people in attaining their aspirations for prosperity, progress and peace, were conveyed to President Mubarak.

On the occasion of the exchange of messages, the sides noted with satisfaction the evolution of Romanian-Egyptian cooperation in many areas and emphasized additional ways and means of further developing Romanian-Egyptian relations, in the interests of the two peoples and of the cause of peace and understanding in the world.

On the same occasion, the sides exchanged detailed views on certain current international issues. They expressed the mutual desire to continue the dialogue at summit level and the bilateral cooperation in the area of international relations, with a view to strengthening peace and cooperation among nations, for security and respect for national independence.

Expressing warm thanks for the message received, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak in his turn conveyed to President Nicolae Ceausescu cordial wishes for personal health and happiness, friendly greetings, and his great appreciation for the efforts made by the Romanian president for developing Romanian-Egyptian relations and for promoting a policy of international peace and cooperation.

The exchange of messages took place at a meeting between the Egyptian head of state and Comrade Vasile Pungan, adviser to the Romanian president.

CEAUSESCU ADVISER MEETS GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

AU221936 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1858 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 22 Dec (AGERPRES) -- Consequent to the exchange of messages between Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, an interview took place in Cairo, between Ahmad Fu'ad Muhyi, first deputy prime minister of Egypt, and Vasile Pungan, adviser to the president of the republic, minister secretary of state.

The Romanian head of state's special envoy had also meetings with Muhammad Taha Zaki, minister of industry and mining, Sulayman Mutawalli, minister of transport and communications, and Mahmud Muhammad Da'ud, minister of agriculture.

They anaylzed the stage of Romanian-Egyptian economic cooperation, and established measures for the accomplishment under the best conditions of all projects of economic cooperation, for seeking out fresh possibilities to develop the economic relations between Romania and Egypt, in keeping with summit agreements and recommendations.

PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED ON MALI MINISTER'S VISIT

NC301643 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 30 Dec (MENA) -- Mali and Egypt have emphasized their respect and complete and firm support for the principles of the United Nations and the OAU, particularly in relation to the maintenance of solidarity among peoples and the achievement of world security and stability as well as territorial sovereignty for all states.

The two countries also emphasized the importance of exerting every effort to achieve security and peace on the African Continent as well as development and progress for the African states. They also stressed the importance of bolstering the Nonaligned Movement and preserving its integrity.

This came in a press statement issued today at the conclusion of a visit to Egypt by a Malian delegation led by the Malian foreign minister.

The following is the text of the press statement:

President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has received Malian Foreign Minister Alioune Blondin Beye, who gave his excellency a letter from Mali President Moussa Traore.

The Malian minister has also held talks with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali.

The Egyptian-Malian joint committee held a meeting in Cairo from 28 to 29 December. The Egyptian side was headed by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali and the Malian side by Foreign Minister Alioune Blondin Beye.

The two sides emphasized the profundity of the historic relations between the two fraternal peoples and countries and their eagerness to bolster bilateral relations in the various political, economic and cultural fields and stimulate technical cooperation, particularly through the Egyptian fund for technical cooperation with Africa.

The two sides also exchanged views on various African and international affairs of mutual interest.

In the field of African and international affairs, the two sides affirmed their respect and complete and firm support for the principles of the UN Charter and the OAU, particularly in relation to the need for preserving solidarity among peoples and achieving world security and stability and territorial sovereignty for [all] states.

The two sides studied the present African problems and underscored the importance of exerting every effort to achieve security and peace on the [African] Continent -- a matter which will contribute to creating suitable conditions for development and progress in the African states for the prosperity of their people.

The two sides also emphasized their interest in the Nonaligned Movement and in the need to exert joint efforts to bolster the movement and preserve its unity, asserting the importance of the role of Africa and the African states to achieve this objective.

The two sides believe that since the North-South dialogue has not achieved satisfactory results, dialogue and cooperation among the countries of the South is extremely important for the developing states.

The Egyptian side reviewed the recent developments of the Middle East problem and the role which Egypt is playing to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the area. The Egyptian side also welcomed any initiatives that would contribute to achieving this objective.

The Egytpian side also affirmed that in its eagerness to achieve the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, Egypt is determined to continue the current discussions on Palestinian autonomy.

The two sides agreed to convene the next meeting of the joint committee in Bamako at a date to be fixed later.

FRENCH DEFENSE MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS

NC301941 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1855 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 30 Dec (MENA) -- French Defense Minister Charles Hernu arrived in Cairo from Paris this evening onboard a private plane. The French defense minister, who is heading a military delegation, will be in Egypt on a visit lasting several days.

During his visit, the French guest will hold discussions with Egyptian officials related to bolstering the defense cooperation between Egypt and France.

After his arrival, the French minister stated that his country is greatly interested in Egypt. He added that his discussions with Egyptian officials will focus on Egypt's military needs in arms as well as France's participation in the Sinai multinational force. The French minister went on to say that support for the Egyptian Armed Forces is support for peace.

The French minister was received at the airport by Commander of the Central Military Sector Maj Gen Muhammad 'Aityah Sulayman, Egyptian military attache in Paris Maj Gen Labib Sharab and the French ambassador in Cairo.

INA REPORTS ISRAELI AIRSPACE VIOLATION

JN301358 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1345 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Dec (INA) -- An Iraqi military spokesman has stated that two Israeli F-15 fighter planes violated Iraqi airspace this afternoon over Maqaran-Na'am area, in the west part of Iraq.

The spokesman said that the Iraqi planes intercepted the Israeli planes and forced them to flee. Following is the text of the military spokesman statement:

At 1404 today, two Israeli F-15 fighter planes violated our airspace for 50 km over Maqaran-Na'am. Our fighter planes intercepted them and forced them to flee. All our planes returned safely to base.

ATH-THAWRAH Editorial

JN311048 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0850 GMT 31 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Dec (INA) -- The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH has said that the Zionist entity, which boastfully commits aggression against Arab territory here and there, will be doomed to failure and will not escape from its historical impasse no matter how much it persists in its arrogance. The roaring march will reach it from Baghdad, as it has throughout history, to liberate Palestine and purge Arab territory of the filth of criminal Zionism.

In an editorial today, the paper added: The Zionist entity's attempt to violate Iraqi airspace shows the extent of the wrath and spite overtaking the Tel Aviv rulers due to Iraq's growing combat capability, great steadfastness and decisive superiority in its 16-month confrontation of Persian aggression.

It stressed that the violation of the airspace of the western Iraqi region shows coordination and cooperation between the Zionist entity and the racist Khomeyni regime. It added: Tehran rulers were disappointed and their dreams failed to achieve even partial victories at the battlefront with Iraq, due to the valor of Saddam Husayn's soldiers. Therefore, the Zionists committed aggression against Iraq from the western borders so as to make up for this failure and reduce the repercussions of the massive real defeat and psychological frustration among the ranks of the Khomeyni remnants.

ATH-THAWRAH added: The large amount of cooperation between the two enemies of the Arab nation -- the Zionist entity and the expansionist Persians -- and Iraq in the field of armament and exchange of experiences and information is no longer a secret. There has been successive information and confessions in this regard by Zionist and Iranian officials, the crash of the Argentine plane in Soviet territory, the official Cypriot spokesman's statement which confirmed the arms shipments between Tehran and Tel Aviv via Larnaca airport and everything published by the Zionist, U.S. and European press and information media on cooperation between the racist Zionist and Persian regimes.

The paper indicated that the criminal Zionist raids against the peaceful nuclear installations in Iraq on 7 June 1981 and on 27 September 1980 were the peak of the Zionist enemy's treacherous attacks, taking advantage of the preoccupation of our valiant army and militant people in defending the homeland's dignity and sovereignty against Persian aggression by which Khomeyni and his freemasonry clique want to occupy Iraq and sully the Iraqis' honor. However, the Khomeyni clique was paid back twofold and was taught a hard lesson in the need to respect its neighbors and international charters and to abstain from interfering in others' internal affairs.

ATH-THAWRAH further said: The Zionist violation of our airspace over the Maqaran-Na'am area and 50 km deep into the western part of Iraq reaffirms that the socialist, pan-Arab, liberation and revolutionary experience in Iraq is a serious danger to the imperialist, Zionist and racist Persian interests as well as an insurmountable obstacle in the face of peddling the capitulatory settlement schemes, swallowing the Arab territory and consecrating Zionist occupation and aggression.

It added: Hence, the forces of evil and darkness join ranks to plot against Iraq, curb it, stunt its growth and hamper its progress. This, however, has always been met with further determination to continue the march regardless of difficulties and treacheries. The paper recalled President Saddam Husayn's statement at the Council of Ministers last Tuesday when he said: The battle between us and Zionism is a fateful one and there is no middle solution between a united and capable nation and a despicable and divided one. It also recalled his words that world Zionism is the primary danger to the Arab nation.

Concluding, the paper said: Yesterday's Zionist aggression came within this enlightened consideration, sound calculation and strategic farsightedness of current challenges and dangers as possessed by President Saddam Husayn's leadership.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE NO 569

JN301820 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1735 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Communique No 569 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 30 December 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The glorious sons of Iraq are fighting the Zionist and Persian enemies to build Iraq, safeguard its land and waters, and to defend the nation's dignity and sovereignty. The following are the results of the activities carried out in operational sectors yesterday evening and today.

I. At 1405 today, two F-15 fighter planes belonging to the Zionist enemy violated our airspace 50 km inside the Maqaran-Na'am area. Our fighter planes intercepted them and forced them out of Iraqi airspace. All our planes returned safely to base.

II. As for the operations on the battlefield with the rancorous Persian enemy, the Persian enemy losses were as follows:

A. Our heroic units clashed with an enemy force in Sumar, struck at the enemy with various weapons and inflicted heavy human and material losses. Known enemy losses, as counted by the competent parties, are 232 killed and 10 vehicles loaded with personnel were destroyed.
B. One of our courageous units attacked enemy positions and concentrations in Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area with all kinds of weapons. The enemy was forced to flee in terror leaving behind more than 120 killed. One vehicle loaded with hardware, one gun, two stockpiles of ammunition, and one observation post were destroyed and huge quantities of weapons and hardware were seized.
C. One of our forward units clashed with an enemy force in Mimak area opposite its positions in Sayf Sa'd. A fierce battle took place after which the enemy was forced to retreat leaving behind 64 dead, whose bodies are still littering the battlefield, as well as many wounded.
D. One of our forward units struck enemy positions and concentrations in the Abadan area killing 18 of the enemy and destroying 1 vehicle loaded with hardware, 2 excavators, 1 stockpile of ammunition and observation post.

E. One of our forward units raided an enemy force in the Gilan-e Gharb area, and using all kinds of weapons killed 15 of the enemy. Our forces also confiscated various types of weapons.
F. Six were killed and one vehicle was destroyed in the Shush area.
G. Three were killed and one vehicle and one observation post were destroyed in the Dezful area.
H. Three were killed and one vehicle was destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.
I. Two were killed in the Mehran area.
J. One vehicle and one observation post were destroyed in the Nowsud area.

Thus, the total known enemy losses amounted to 463 killed and 16 vehicles, 1 gun, 2 excavators, 3 stockpile of ammunition and 4 observation posts destroyed.

III. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 15 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One tank and one excavator damaged.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO LESOTHO -- Maseru, 27 Dec (INA) -- The king of Lesotho, Moshoeshoe II, has received the credentials of 'Abd al-Karim Makki, Iraq's nonresident ambassador to the Kingdom of Lesotho. [Baghdad INA in Arabic 1120 GMT 27 Dec 81 JN]

NEW ENVOYS -- President Saddam Husayn today received the credentials of Yugoslav Ambassador Dr (Vido Alendritch), French Ambassador Paul (Diege) and Polish Ambassador Antoni (Charkoviski) in Baghdad. [Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 Dec 81 GF]

KING HUSAYN RECEIVES SENATOR CHARLES PERCY

JN301655 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received Senator Charles Percy, chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, at the royal Hashemite court this evening. His majesty the king and Senator Percy discussed the Middle East question and current international issues. His Majesty King Husayn asserted that Jordan's stand on a comprehensive and just peace in the area is based on complete Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories, particularly Jerusalem, and a guarantee of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including their right to determine their destiny on their national soil. The meeting was attended by the U.S. ambassador in Jordan.

AR-RA'Y Comment

JN310739 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 31 Dec 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Our Firm Stand," today's AR-RA'Y writes: The talks between His Majesty King Husayn and Senator Percy are another link in the dialogue between Jordan and the United States. During these talks, King Husayn stressed Jordan's stand which is that the attainment of a comprehensive, just peace requires Israel's total withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, headed by Arab Jerusalem, and a guarantee of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination on the soil of their homeland.

What King Husyan has said is an expression of the clear Arab stand on the issue. It also means that removing the vestiges of Israeli aggression and enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their rights like the rest of the world are the two basic pillars for peace. It goes without saying that Israel rejects those two pillars and acts against them by continuing its settlement operations, annexing the Golan after Jerusalem and denying the Palestinian people's rights to their homeland. It seems that Israel wanted to corroborate these practices in the presence of Senator Percy. Thus two of its planes have violated Iraqi airspace. This action not only belittles the importance of the U.S. role, but it is also provocative and hostile muscle-flexing.

The U.S. viewpoint, which holds that Arab recognition of Israel is the key to peace, is putting the cart before the horse: The real key to peace is Israel's recognition of the Palestinian people's national rights, its withdrawal from the occupied Arab territory and its relinquishment of hostile practices.

The U.S. administration has given Israel large amounts of material and military aid under the pretext that guaranteeing its security makes it better able to accept peace. It has been proved that the opposite is true because Israel's appetite for aggression and annexation soon expanded and escalated and its determination to oppose peace also intensified. It has become clear that it is the rest of the region that is in need of security from Israel.

However, we say again that all these facts have been fully explained to Washington and congressional leaders more than once. The firm and continuous Arab stand has also been explained more than once. Once the Arab situation rises to the level of the challenges, these same facts will have another impact not only in the U.S. arena, but also in the whole world.

VOP REPORTS STEPS TO REINFORCE SECURITY

JN292036 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1810 GMT 29 Dec 81

[From "With the Events" program]

[Text] The higher coordination committee and the higher security committee have taken new steps to consolidate and reinforce the security measures that have recently been approved and implemented to halt the series of criminal explosions aimed against the lives of the citizens and the security of the nationalist areas, to prevent violations and encroachments and to put an end to the firing of guns during celebrations. Various nationalist areas have witnessed a meticulous combing operation by the security force comprising the National Movement and the Arab Deterrent Forces to test these measures. Joint patrols were equipped with technical facilities to detect explosives. Joint security force patrols were deployed in secret areas in Beirut to monitor locations that might be targets for explosions. In order to explain the aims behind these measures, the security committee issued the following statement:

The measures to be implemented by the security force are confined to the following objectives:

1. To confront the concentrated sabotage campaign launched by hostile forces against our nationalist areas in the form of explosions, car bombings and time bombs in all our areas.

2. To consolidate all the measures for removing all armed manifestations and to exercise strict measures against violators, including their arrest.

3. To implement the decision to prevent the firing of guns during celebrations and to arrest violators.

4. To apply strictly the decisions related to the removal of carts and hindrances from the pavements and streets including the main streets in which such measures were implemented previously.

The statement concluded by saying that the higher security committee reiterates the need for applying these measures and promoting them gradually and daily. The committee realizes that the role of the masses is the key to the successful implementation of these measures. The committee, therefore, calls on all citizens to cooperate with it and with its departments in order to implement these measures and to develop them further.

PRESS VIEWS AL-ASAD'S ARABIAN PENINSULA TOUR

JN300720 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Press review]

[Excerpts] The Damascus dailies today highlight the positive results of President Hafiz al-Asad's tour of the Arabian Peninsula and Arab Gulf states.

President Hafiz al-Asad's tour is an integral part of a Syrian move to tackle the Arab situation and the threats facing the Arab nation resulting from the Zionist enemy's plots and designs, particularly following the Zionist enemy's decision to annex the occupied Golan Heights.

Continuing, the papers say: The Syrian move embodies the principles previously declared by President Hafiz al-Asad with regard to the Arabism of the battle against the Zionist enemy, the need to marshal and mobilize all potentials and focus and unify Arab efforts for the sake of fending off the Zionist danger. Our leader's tour is a part of an all-out Syrian move on all levels and in all domains to discuss the ways and means to confront the enemy on the Arab and international levels. Syria will never relinquish the area and will exert every effort to unify all Arab forces that reject capitulation, plots and imperialist hegemony in the area. The papers assert that Syria will resort to every means to improve the joint Arab action vis-a-vis all the plots and designs directed against all the Arab countries. The course of events and developments in the area as well as the Zionist enemy's designs have confirmed the need to find methods for joint Arab action compatiable with the requisities of defense of the nation's existence, rights and future.

The papers assert that President Hafiz al-Asad's tour of the Arabian Peninsula and the Arab Gulf states has achieved an important step along the road to achieving pan-Arab mobilization and has rectified the status of inter-Arab relations toward abiding by the Arab summits' resolutions, particularly those of Baghdad and Tunis, with regard to the priority of the fateful struggle with the Zionist enemy. Syria, which has repeatedly and ceaselessly declared that the Palestinian issue is the central and primary issue of the Arab nation, will exert strenuous efforts to pool Arab energies to confront the continued Israeli aggression against the Arab nation.

MALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS

JN301636 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] Alioune Blondin Beye, Malian minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, arrived in Damascus at 1600 today for a 3-day visit to Syria. He was welcomed at the Damascus International Airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; the director of the African Affairs Department at the Foreign Ministry; the director of protocol and the Malian charge d'affaires in Damascus.

Meets Khaddam

JN301901 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] A meeting was held at 1830 at the Foreign Ministry between 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Alioune Blondin Beye, Malian minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation.

Participating in the meeting on the Syrian side were Nasir Qaddur, assistant foreign minister; and 'Adnan Murad, director of the African Affairs Department. On the Malian side were (Shaykh Diakite), Malian charge d'affaires in Jidda; and (Basari Noura), assistant director general of the International Cooperation Department at the Malian Foreign Ministry.

The talks dealt with bilateral relations, the situation in the Middle East following the enemy's decision to annex the Golan Heights as well as current international developments.

IDF REACTS TO IRAQI REPORTS ON VIOLATION

TA301523 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] The IRAQI NEWS AGENCY this afternoon reported that two Israeli F-15's overflew southwestern Iraqi not far from the Saudi border. The IRAQI NEWS AGENCY reported that the incident took place at 1415 Israeli time [1215 GMT]. It also reported that Iraqi aircraft intercepted the Israeli fighters, which were forced to flee.

Undetected by Saudis

TA301822 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Saudi Arabia says that the area overflown by Israeli aircraft -- which, as Iraq claims, infiltrated Iraqi territory -- does not lie within the detection range of the U.S. AWACS aircraft stationed in Saudi Arabia. Iraq claims that two F-15's infiltrated about 50 kms into its territory at noon and overflew an airbase where some of its bombers are stationed.

FURTHER DETAILS ON PERCY'S NEWS CONFERENCE

TA301145 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1115 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Report on Senator Charles Percy's 30 December news conference in Jerusalem by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer on the "Midday Newsreel" -- recorded]

[Text] It looks as though Charles Percy will not be the architect of the rapprochement between Israel and the United States. The chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee repeated his well-known positions and was not too lenient on Israel. Rather than summing up his talks here, his statement -- prepared in advance -- was a proper prologue for his visit to some Arab countries. In the course of the 3 days he spent in Israel, he met with the prime minister and with the foreign and defense ministers, as well as with other personalities.

[Percy -- in English] I also met at length with three Palestinian leaders, because I have long held that there will not be any real basis for a lasting peace in the Middle East without resolving the Palestinian problem.

[Schiffer translated the above into Hebrew and continues] As for his tour of northern Israel, he said: I saw from a close range, and studied personally, what a tragic experience local residents on both sides of the border have gone through as a result of shellings from both sides.

Percy promised to work for further strengthening the cease-fire along the Lebanese border. In his talks, he said, he expressed his deep concern over the situation in Israeli-U.S. relations caused by the Golan legislation. He recommended that pronouncements which exacerbate the situation be moderated:

[Percy -- in English] The special relationship between our peoples, based on shared democratic values, mutual admiration and a long association should not be put at risk by unilateral Israeli actions, taken without regard to the interests of the United States in strengthening regional security against external strength and advancing the peace process.

[Schiffer translates the above into Hebrew and continues] Charles Percy disclosed that he had obtained unequivocal pledges from the personalities he had met here that Israel would complete the pullback on time. In his opinion, the autonomy talks, too, should be accelerated.

Later, during his tour of Arab countries, Percy will [attempt to] persuade their leaders to recognize Israel's right to exist safely in recognized borders.

The U.S. Middle East policy, he said, will continue to be founded on the Camp David accords and UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

The chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee concluded reading out his prepared statement but refused to answer reporters questions.

HAIG POLITICAL TOUR SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY

TA301133 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] Political circles in Israel confirmed today that Secretary of State Alexander Haig will probably visit Israel in February, in the course of a political tour of the Middle East. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer notes that Haig's visit to Israel will be within the framework of the dialogue between Israel and the United States, in an attempt to eliminate the differences between the two countries.

Political circles stress that Menahem Begin sought to make it clear to Senator Charles Percy that Israel, in bombing the Iraqi reactor, in bombing the terrorist headquarters in Beirut, and in passing the Golan Heights Law, acted in accordance with its vital interests. Menahem Begin holds that in taking these steps Israel did not adversely affect its friendly relations with Washington, because no fateful U.S. interests were involved, only diplomatic inconvenience.

SHAMIR DISCUSSES SINAI, GOLAN, U.S. TIES

TA302123 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1910 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] Jerusalem, 30 Dec -- "Only after April 1982 will we know whether our sacrifices for peace are justified," Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said on Thursday [as received] in a political lecture delivered at a meeting of the Agudat Yisra'el World Executive Council in Jerusalem, which was attended by 150 delegates of the movement from Israel and abroad.

Mr Shamir elaborated on the meaning of the sacrifices Israel made by its numerous concessions in Sinai, such as the oil fields that had been in its possession and which it gave up for the sake of peace. The foreign minister thinks, however, that the normalization now going on between the two countries is not a full one and that on the Egyptian side it is being implemented as if it were forced by the devil.

"The normalization is not implemented willingly, but rather by the book," said the foreign minister, who maintained that views voiced in the Egyptian press against peaceful relations with Israel, also give cause for grave concern. These views express Muslim religious fanaticism, and because of that fanaticism, President as-Sadat was assassinated.

For this reason Israel is attributing a great deal of importance to the Multinational Force and Observers [MFO] that is to be stationed in the Sinai upon completion of the withdrawal, Mr Shamir explained. He emphasized that Israel is relying on that force, which will be comprised mostly of U.S. soldiers, adding that the Egyptians will have to think twice before every step likely to involve them in a possible confrontation with U.S. troops in the Sinai.

As for Syria, the foreign minister said no chance for reaching a peace settlement with the Syrians can be seen, which was one of the reasons for passing the Golan Law. However, Mr Shamir added, Israel will be ready to enter into peace negotiations with Syria at any time without preconditions and despite the Golan Law, provided a government is formed in Syria that has a desire for peace.

Mr Shamir spoke also about Israel- U.S. relations and explained that they are based on a firm and long-time friendship. He also referred to the common interests and identical world opinions of the U.S. and Israeli democracies. He said the differences of opinion between the two countries are a phenomenon occurring between friends, and they are focusing on two issues: the borders and Israel's security.

SHARON SAYS EVACUATION OF YAMIT CONDITIONAL

TA300856 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 30 Dec 81 p 2

[Report by Hagay Eshed]

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon yesterday told the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee and earlier, the coalition executive -- that the Sinai evacuation would take place near the final date, but that the Egyptians must know that there are things that must be done [lekayem] before the evacuation, and if they are not done -- there will be no evacuation.

Sharon said there was no inconsistency between this remark and the message sent by Prime Minister Begin to Egyptian President Mubarak regarding Israel's intention to complete the withdrawal on the agreed date in accordance with its commitments.

The defense minister was responding to criticism from MK Viktor Shem-Tov (Alignment-MAPAM) about a press report quoting the defense minister as saying, in the name of the government, that there was no harm done if the Egyptians and the United States were made aware that the rest of Sinai was not yet in their pocket.

With respect to the Yamit evacuation, Sharon said that "the government knows what is happening in Yamit, and we know nothing of any arms depots there. We are not in any hurry to arrive at a situation in which Jewish blood will be shed by Jews."

Negotiations To Open 3 Jan

TA301434 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] Accelerated negotiations between the Agriculture Ministry and the Yamit inhabitants on a final arrangement on the compensation to be paid to the businessmen in the town will open next Sunday [3 January]. This was concluded between the agriculture minister and the Yamit Action Committee.

PERES COMMENTS ON BEGIN, SHARON COMPETITION

TA291143 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 29 Dec 81 p 3

[Text] Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres told members of the Alignment faction yesterday that he was very disturbed by the personal competition between Prime Minister Begin and Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, because "we are dealing with people whose actions cannot be predicted in advance."

He called for an increased Israeli presence in the Golan Heights, although he rejects its annexation to the State of Israel.

Peres explained to the members of his faction that he expects four events in the near future, which will, in his view, cause a storm in the country: the affair concerning the reform in the defense establishment, the events before the evacuation of the Sinai, a draft bill for the annexation of Judaea and Samaria, which will be submitted by the Tehiya faction, and the situation in Lebanon and Syria.

Therefore, Peres decided, the Alignment faction's position on the main issues should be prepared at once.

EXTENSION OF TERRITORIAL WATERS CONSIDERED

TA301035 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 30 Dec 81 p 5

[Commentary by Shmu'el Segev: "Improvisations Before April"]

[Excerpt] A new idea is now cooking in Israel -- to extend the country's territorial waters from 3 to 12 miles.

The originators of this idea explain that it is needed in order to reduce the risk of terrorist boats penetrating to Israel's coast. The aim may be understandable, perhaps even justified, but the consequences of such an act are liable to generate considerable difficulties in other maritime regions. For example, experts warn that in the wake of any unilateral Israeli expansion of its territorial waters in the Mediterranean, Jordan and Syria are liable to extend the limits of their territorial waters in the Gulf of 'Aqaba, thus pushing the border right to the coast of Elat. Not to mention the possibility that Egypt could also take such a unilateral step both in the Mediterranean and in the Gulf of Elat.

The meaning of any rash legislation regarding freedom of navigation to Elat -- and precisely after the completion of the withdrawal from Sharm ash-Shaykh -- is clear. However, it is doubtful whether any calming words will dispel the siege feeling that Elat's residents will have in the future.

FRANCE'S MAUROY SAYS RELATIONS 'SUSPENDED'

TA300605 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] At the conclusion of the Socialist International meeting, French Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy conferred with MK Abba Eban, and told him that everything pertaining to Israeli-French relations is currently suspended and there is no longer an obligation to hold President Mitterrand's visit to Israel on schedule. However, he added, there has been no decision not to hold the visit.

AFRICAN COUNTRIES DECLINE TO RENEW TIES

TA290536 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Several African countries that had intended to renew diplomatic relations with Israel soon have announced they have changed their position due to the Golan Law. Our political correspondent has learned that statements to this effect were transmitted to Israel a few days ago. One African country has announced it was canceling a deal [phrase as heard] it was going to make with Irasel and another announced it would not work to convince other African countries to resume relations with Israel after April 1982.

A few days ago the Zaire president leveled sharp criticism at the Golan Law after he had earlier expressed readiness to renew relations with Israel.

HA'ARETZ reports that Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche is now visiting several African countries previously visited by the defense minister.

Senegal Announcement

TA240953 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 24 Dec 81

[Text] Senegal has announced that it has no intention of resuming diplomatic relations with Israel. The announcement was delivered by the information minister while he was talking on Dakar radio about the annexation of the Golan.

Foreign Ministry Comments

TA291047 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 29 Dec 81 p 1

[Excerpt] A representative of the Foreign Ministry, who was asked this morning to comment on a report by Israeli radio that African countries would not renew ties with Israel, said the ministry knew nothing about this.

The Foreign Ministry also officially denied another report saying that the ministry's director general, David Kimche, is now visiting several African countries. It was reported that Kimche is visiting Europe and the United States.

Government Sources Comment

TA300901 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 30 Dec 81 p 2

[Report by political correspondent Daniyel Bloch]

[Text] No African country has informed Israel that it has reneged on its intention to renew diplomatic relations with Israel.

Government sources note that several recent events had hampered activity toward a renewal of relations more than had the Golan Heights Law. These difficulties were caused by Defense Minister Sharon's declaration about his visit to South Africa and the reasons for it, and by the plethora of reports about Sharon's secret visit to several African states.

The main basis for the reports about the renewal of relations was the public declaration by Zaire President Mobutu in Washington. He said that he would convene a group of heads of state in order to make a decision regarding the renewal of relations with Israel. To the best of Jerusalem's knowledge, Mobutu has not changed his mind about this, although he may have postponed for a time the meeting's organization.

It was also clarified yesterday that Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche did not visit Africa, but the United States. It was the Foreign Ministry's deputy director general for administration, Mordekhay Drori, who visited several African countries. He will be dealing with organizational matters relating to the unofficial Israeli representations in those countries.

MINISTER SHARON ON SOVIET ARMS IN MIDDLE EAST

TA310747 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2240 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] Jerusalem, 30 Dec -- The Soviets are maintaining thousands of tanks, hundreds of planes, missiles and large amounts of other equipment in the arsenals of the countries under their aegis in the Middle East and its environs. According to estimates, they will also intervene directly if there is any possibility of this and this should disturb us and make the strategic cooperation incumbent upon us.

These remarks were made by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon today at a meeting of the world steering committee of Agudat Yisra'el being held in Jerusalem. He was reviewing Israel's security problems and the factors that will influence it in the coming decade.

Mr Sharon devoted his talk to the strategy of Soviet expansionism which represents a danger in addition that to which Israel is exposed from the confrontation states near it. The Soviet expansionist aim, which originated back in the time of Stalin, is to reach the sources of raw materials and natural resources and quarries such as oil in the Middle East and other assets, mainly in the heart of Africa.

Mr Sharon disclosed that in Syria, which has 3,000 tanks, there are another 1,250 Soviet Army tanks as reserves, and in the Libyan arsenals there are 1,900 Soviet tanks; this is in addition to another 1,000 tanks and 600 aircraft situated in Central Africa. "All these weapons are waiting for someone and this should disturb us," the defense minister said.

Mr Sharon added that the eastern front countries -- Syria, Iraq, Jordan and Saudi Arabia -- have at their disposal today 7,000 tanks, 1,500 modern fighter planes and a large number of surface-to-surface missiles with a range of several hundred kilometers.

The minister of defense, who was evaluating the possibility of military and Soviet [as received] intervention in the event of this being possible for the Soviet Union, dwelt on the gravity of the danger in this phenomenon, stressing that "we have learned the moral of Afghanistan" and, in this context, he explained the need for a strategic cooperation agreement with the United States .

However, the defense minister emphasized that Israel has decided several points and situations for itself, which it is not prepared to put up with or accept. "We have decided not to accept, under any circumstances, a situation in which an Arab country will have nuclear weapons ready or in the production stage," Mr Sharon said. He added that the bombing of the nuclear reactor in Iraq had not only been intended to destroy it, but especially to announce to the world that "from this time on Israel will not let any Arab country maintain or produce nuclear weapons."

One principle that Israel has determined and which it will not accept [as published] is that there will be no Egyptian Army in a strip 150 km wide from the Israeli border, "and we will not accept any Egyptian Army inside that strip and this was guaranteed in the Camp David agreement," he said. Mr Sharon added that Israel would also not accept a situation in which the Iraqis would bring tanks into Jordan, not to mention the fact that Israel would not accept the establishment of a Palestinian state.

In his remarks the defense minister praised the response of religious Jews to contribute to settlement in Judaea and Samaria with the establishment of the town 'Imanu'el. In his opinion, the speed of the construction and the devotion of the founders of the town 'Imanu'el guarantees that this will be one of the first towns of religious Jewry in Judaea and Samaria.

SHARON SAYS LAVI PROJECT MUST BE REVISED

TA301528 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] Ari'el Sharon has said that the defense establishment must revise the Lavi aircraft project. Nevertheless, the defense minister, who toured the Beth Shemesh engines plant today, believes that the government's decision to build the Lavi aircraft in Israel and its engine in the Beth Shemseh plant will materialize.

RADIO REPORTS U.S. MIGHT CUT MILITARY CREDIT

TA301922 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] Sources at the Defense Department in Washington this evening said that the U.S. administration might cut the military credit to Israel which was recommended by the Pentagon about 4 months ago in order to emphasize its concern over the annexation of the Golan Heights. The Pentagon recommended that military credit to Israel be increased to $1.7 billion in the next year, $300 million more than was approved for the current year and the preceding one. However, the sources noted that the recommendation was made before Israeli jurisdiction was applied to the Golan Heights although the Defense Department had formulated the proposal to increase aid to Israel after the destruction of the Iraqi reactor and the terrorist headquarters in Beirut.

Another Pentagon source expressed in his evaluation that the dispute between the United States and Israel would pass within a few weeks if Israel abstained from further actions likely to anger the Americans. The same sources noted that the Defense Department had rejected a request submitted by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon to supply Israel with four huge KC-135 refueling aircraft designed to extend the range of the F-15's and F-16's. Sharon submitted the requests to his hosts in Washington when he met with the Defense Department heads.

ALGERIA

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON FLN-MPLA TALKS 30 DEC

LD310323 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Support for all the liberation movements in Africa, Asia and Latin America, vigorous condemnation of the criminal acts of colonialism and imperialism, expansion and intensification in all fields of fruitful cooperation: These are the main points in the joint communique of the FLN and MPLA-Labor parties published this evening following the 5-day visit to Algeria by an important MPLA-Labor delegation.

In their analysis of the situation prevailing throughout southern Africa, the two delegations express their strong concern at the worsening of tension caused by the aggressive policy of South Africa against the frontline countries, particularly against Angola. They vigorously condemn the criminal acts of the anachronistic, colonial and racist apartheid regime, supported by imperialism, Zionism and reaction. They recall that these attacks constitute a flagrant violation of international law and a further challenge to the world's conscience. The two parties denounce the delaying tactics of the Western powers and the minority racist regime of Pretoria which tend to delay the inevitable independence of the fraternal people of Namibia, which is illegally occupied, and to impose a neocolonialist solution contrary to Resolution 435 of the UN Security Council.

Dealing with the situation prevailing in northwest Africa, the two delegations express satisfaction with the military and diplomatic successed scored by the fraternal people of the Western Sahara under the leadership of the Polisario Front against the expansionist policy of Morocco. They call on the two opposing sides, Morocco and the Polisario Front, to begin direct negotiations to apply the decisions of the OAU, its implementation committee, and the United Nations to organize a referendum for free, general and verified self-determination.

Greatly concerned by the worsening tension in the Middle East, the two parties forcefully condemn the annexation of the Golan by the Zionist entity, the fierce repression started against Palestinian patriots in the occupied Arab territories and the repeated attacks against Lebanon. They reiterate their unreserved support for the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people under PLO leadership and their constant solidarity with the fraternal peoples of Syria, Lebanon and (?with) their national sovereignty.

The Algerian delegation was led by Mr Slimane Hoffman and the Angolan side by Alexandre Rodrigues Tito. The MPLA delegation left Algiers this afternoon.

LIBYA

SAUDI ARABIA DECIDES TO RESTORE RELATIONS

LD310802 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0750 GMT 31 Dec 81

[Text] Tripoli, 31 Dec (JANA) -- The Popular Bureau for Foreign Liaison in Tripoli today issued the following statement:

Out of their anxiousness to cast away differences, repair the rift in Arab relations and unify Arab action against the common enemy, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Saudi Arabian Kingdom have decided to restore diplomatic relations between them.

MOROCCO

HASSAN RECEIVES KUWAITI PRIME MINISTER

LD001308 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] At noon today, his majesty the king received in audience at the royal palace in Marrakech the Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, and the accompanying delegation in the presence of Crown Prince Sidi Mohammed, Prime Minister Maati Bouabid and members of the Moroccan delegation. His majesty later held a private conversation with the Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister.

KLIBI COMMENTS ON TALKS WITH BOUCETTA

LD301340 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] This morning, his majesty the king received Chadli Klibi, Arab League secretary general, at the royal palace in Marrakech, in the presence of the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs M'hamed Boucetta. After the audience Mr Klibi told our correspondent:

[Begin recording] I have had the honor of an audience with his majesty. The conversation with his majesty concentrated on the Arab situation since the Fes summit and also on evaluating the probability of the summit being resumed. The conversation also dealt with what we should do in the course of the next few days in the Arab arena so as to have a number of contacts and consultations in the light of the recent events and in particular the Israeli decision to annex the Golan and the Arab moves and (?contacts) that followed this unjust decision. I believe we will embark on this move directly after the new year, together with my friend and colleague, Mr M'hamed Boucetta. It will enable us to explore the situation very closely and will make it possible to make the appropriate decision regarding the resumption of the summit's work, first at the foreign ministers level and then, God willing, at the heads of state level. [end recording]

SUDAN

NUMAYRI BRIEFED BY KHALIL ON CAIRO MEETINGS

EA310014 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] The leader president, Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, received in his office at the Prime Minister's Office at 1300 today Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil, first vice president of the republic and defense minister, who conveyed to his excellencey greetings from the Egyptian president, Husni Mubarak. He also briefed him on the results of the meetings of the Sudan-Egyptian Joint Defense Council recently held in Cairo.

ETHIOPIA

CHEYSSON ARRIVES 30 DEC FOR 4-DAY VISIT

EA810042 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] His Excellency Claude Cheysson, French minister for exernal relations, arrived in Addis Ababa this afternoon at the start of a 4-day official visit to socialist Ethiopia.

On arrival in Addis Ababa, Cheysson was met by Comrades Dr Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, foreign minister and Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPEW] Central Committee member; Yusuf Ahmed, minister of communications and transport of external trade; other government officials; [name indistinct], French ambassador to socialist Ethiopia, and embassy officials.

Speaking to reporters at Bole International Airport, Cheysson said that during his stay in Addis Ababa he will hold talks with Comrade Dr Feleke Gedle-Giorgis and other officials on the strengthening of relations and cooperation between France and socialist Ethiopia, adding that his visit will enbable him better to understand socialist Ethiopia's development activities. His Excellency Claude Cheysson visits Ethiopia at the invitation of Comrade Dr Feleke Gedle-Giorgis. Delegations from the two countries held their first round of talks at the Foreign Ministry Assembly Hall this afternoon.

AFP Report

NC301607 Paris AFP in English 1551 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] Addis Ababa, 20 Dec (AFP) -- The French Government is unlikely to revive a 1978 French proposal for a round-table conference of countries in the Horn of Africa and their Arab neighbours to settle the dispute between Ethiopia and Somalia, French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson said here today.

"We are not of the region. Plans and proposals to settle differences between the countries of the region should come from those countries themselves, Mr Cheysson said. "France likewise would not expect or want far-off countries to initiate proposals to settle its differences with its European neighbours", Mr Cheysson added. "But if you (countries of the region) feel we can contribute by arranging a conference, then we are available, Mr Cheysson said.

Mr Cheysson was addressing an airport news conference on his arrival here for a four-day official vist to Ethiopia at the invitation of his Ethiopian counterpart, Colonel Felleke Gedle-Giorgis. The round-table conference was first proposed by the government of former French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing and aimed at bringing together Ethiopia, Djibouti, Somali, Sudan, Kenya, the two Yemens and Saudi Arabia in a bid to resolve the Horn of Africa conflict.

Explaining the reasons for his trip, Mr Cheysson said France felt a "deep commitment" to countries in the south and felt "a responsibility in Africa" now that a leftwing government was in power in France. "It is important for us to know how you feel and to tell you how we see developments, Mr Cheysson said, adding that France's bilateral relations with Ethiopia were good but that they "could still be improved".

The minister began official talks with Colonel Felleke within an hour of his arrival. He is scheduled to confer with planning and development, trade and transport and communications officials during his visit and will probably meet head of state Mengistu Haile Mariam tomorrow. The talks are expected to focus on French developments aid to Ethiopia and cover current issues including the Horn of Africa, southern Africa, the Middle East and the international situation. The major portion of the talks will center on bilateral relations, according to Foreign Ministry sources.

CHAD

KAMOUGUE ON EASTERN SITUATION, OAU FORCE

AB301613 Paris AFP in French 1438 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] Ndjamena, 30 Dec (AFP) -- Col Wadal Abdel Kader Kamougue, vice president of the Chadian Transitional National Union Government [GUNT], stated on Wednesday that the departure of our Libyan friends has created a vacuum that elements of the Integrated Army are unable to fill and which has resulted in the situation we are witnessing today in the east of the country.

In a new year's message presented to President Goukouni Oueddei on behalf of the government, Colonel Kamougue also raised the question of the inter-African peacekeeping force. He affirmed that the terms of the mission are open to many interpretations and that the Chadian Government has to settle this with the current OAU chairman.

On the other hand, Colonel Kamougue drew a somewhat negative picture of the Chadian administration's operations. The confusion in the minds of people on the nature of our government, the destabilization movements observed here and there, the delay or the slowness in the formation of the National Integrated Army and the lack of real coordination in our actions are the consequences of a sort of confusion on the part of government officials, he declared.

Colonel Kamougue then enumerated several projects achieved by the government: the putting into operation of schools in Ndjamena, post and telecommunications services and air links established by the administration, as well as the free movement of people all over the territory, except in the east.

Finally, the GUNT vice president stated that the task ahead calls for closer cohesion and better participation by the different officials.

JANA CORRESPONDENT REPORTS BATTLES IN EAST

LD311034 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1015 GMT 31 Dec 81

[Text] Ndjamena, 31 Dec (JANA) -- The JANA correspondent in Ndjamena reports that grinding battles now are taking place at Oum Chalouba, eastern Chad, between government and northern forces.

According to the correspondent, similar battles are raging at Mongo and the northern forces continue their seige of the African forces at Atta.

SIDDICK SAYS GUNT MUST NEGOTIATE WITH HABRE

AB301644 Paris AFP in French 1348 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] Paris, 30 Dec (AFP) -- The coalition government has to negotiate with Hissein Habre whose forces are steadily advancing toward Ndjamena, the leader of the original Frolinat (Chadian National Liberation Front), Dr Abba Siddick, said on Wednesday.

In a statement to AFP, Dr Abba Siddick, who has just returned from a tour of Africa, feels that the military situation of the Chadian Government has deteriorated considerably. Hissein Habre's FAN, he said, currently occupies the departments of Ouaddai and Biline (in the east) and are spreading into Batha (central Chad). The government forces, now weary of the war, show no eagerness to oppose this advancement, he indicated.

It is now left up to the coalition government, if it has Chad's interest at heart, to enter into negotiations with those who are fighting, Dr Abba Siddick stressed, pointing out that it is not a question of love or hatred of Hissein Habre: he is a political reality and has a military presence in the country. He is contesting the legitimacy of the Transitional National Union Government, GUNT, which he said ceased to exist last May according to the 1979 Lagos accord.

The inter-African neutral force, declared Dr Abba Siddick, does not have to replace the Libyan troops, but rather the Chadian political-military factions as the Lagos accords prescribe and it has to ensure the security of all Chadians. Any desire to make the neutral force fight against the factions would go against these accords which remain the acceptable basis for the return to peace in Chad, he said.

Referring to his recent tour of Africa, the Chadian leader said that the Chadian state as such no longer exists and that power lies only in the barrel of a gun.

Only a political solution can bring peace back to Chad, Dr Abba Siddick further said. The external interferences which have already taken initiatives in Chad must now use their influence to bring to the conference table those who signed the Lagos accords.

The leader of the original Frolinat does not think the Libyans will return to Chad. They are not at the service of the coalition government and, politically, they have no interest in doing so if they want to host the OAU summit in 1982. Dr Abba Siddick did not, however, rule out the possibility of their resuming their march toward the center of Africa.

SIDDICK: NEW MOVEMENT DEVELOPING IN SOUTH

AB301422 Paris AFP in French 1355 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] Paris, 30 Dec (AFP) -- A new movement, the Rally for Unity and Democracy in Chad, apparently is being established in southern Chad, according to Dr Abba Siddick, chairman of the original Frolinat (Chadian National Liberation Front).

Southern Chad, he said, has not experienced the plight of the northern regions. The war has not yet affected it but the administrative, economic and social situation is just as disastrous there. Various factions and cliques, Abba Siddick said, are waging an absurd war to seize regional power. A movement, the Rally for Unity and Democracy in Chad, is now being formed there, I believe, to put an end to the power struggle.

The initiative is a good thing per se, Abba Siddick added, provided it is not tribal or regionalistic.

HABRE DOES NOT RULE OUT FRENCH INTERVENTION

AB301603 Paris AFP in French 1524 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] Paris, 30 Dec (APF) -- The leader of the FAN, Hissein Habre, does not rule out intervention by the French Government in Chad where, according to him, Paris' prestige is at stake.

In an interview with the weekly, EXPRESS, Hissein Habre recalls that in 1956 the French Government that ordered intervention in the Suez was a Socialist government. Because the present government's prestige is involved in the Chadian question, he says, I am not ruling out the possibility that it might commit serious errors and intervene in Chad. In this respect, adds Hissein Habre, I do not see any difference between Mitterrand and Giscard d'Estaing. The French leaders always commit the same errors: they choose puppets and simply add fuel to the fire.

After stating that President Goukouni Oueddei no longer enjoys the support of the people or in effect the troops, Hissein Habre feels that the inter-African force's chances of success depend solely on its neutrality, adding that he will fight it if it attacks.

The FAN leader said militarily he can definitely last for years and declared that he is ready to support the ending of the Chadian tragedy.

GABON

ARREST OF 15 DECIMATES OPPOSITION GROUP

AB301307 Paris AFP in French 1100 GMT 30 Dec 81

[From AFP special envoy Bernard Degioanni]

[Text] Libreville, 30 Dec (AFP) -- According to observers in the Gabonese capital, the Gabonese opposition represented by the Movement for National Redress (MORENA) has been decimated with the arrest of about 15 civil servants in Libreville early in December. The arrested persons, who have all admitted MORENA membership, include the former vice chancellor of the University of Libreville, Jean-Pierre Nzoghe Nguema, and several journalists including the editor of the Gabonese Radio, it is learned from various sources. The latter was arrested last Wednesday.

The arrested persons, who will be tried with the greatest severity according to President Omar Bongo, constituted MORENA's leadership to the extent that this opposition party now relies only on some 20 militants who, although determined, are devoid of resources, the same sources indicated. These militants, who have had contacts with foreign press representatives in the Gabonese capital, affirm their intention to resort to violence since they cannot freely formulate their demands, mainly the establishment of a multiparty system in Gabon.

In less than a week, however, they had to stop the distribution of numerous tracts. One of these tracts was pasted on the walls of churches afer the celebration of midnight mass on 24 December. MORENA's militants affirm that all of them have already been identified by Gabonese security services. Their last tract, dated 19 December, particularly demands the immediate and unconditional release of all political detainees, the reopening of the University of Libreville (closed by the authorities on 14 December following a strike movement) and the establishment of democracy in Gabon.

MORENA is also opposed to the Gabonese politicians corruption and the disparities prevailing in this country's community life. The movement also believes that Libreville, with its paved roads and luxurious stores, is only a showcase. It denounces the absence of roads and electricity as well as the poor living conditions and the food shortages, which, it asserts, can be observed in the nine Gabonese provinces.

Observers in Libreville say the Socialists' assumption of power in France on 19 May this year caused the opponents of President Bongo -- who has been head of state for 14 years now -- to come out into the open. MORENA's militants affirm that before Francois Mitterrand's election, they were afraid of possible intervention by French troops stationed in Gabon because of the close ties between Presidents Bongo and Giscard d'Estaing.

In an interview with AFP, the Gabonese head of state admitted in the middle of December that the Socialists' assumption of power in France has created in Gabon an atmosphere in favor of the multiparty system.

MORENA's militants also admit that their party headquarters sent to the French authorities a white paper and three letters addressed to President Mitterrand.

For his part, Bongo described this white paper as a 17-page collection of tracts demanding his resignation and that of his government. According to him, the opposition in Gabon has no future because it is composed of embittered people yearning for the past and incapable of arousing the people. In an interview with AFP on 19 December, the head of state affirmed that these embittered former ambassadors and civil servants have had some trouble with the Gabonese law courts for embezzling public funds.

Gabonese authorities, however, admitted since the beginning of the agitation at the University of Libreville that some dissatisfaction and latent malaise exist here and there, which they attribute to the bad faith and abuse of rights by some senior civil servants.

ZAIRE

TALKS WITH USSR ON MARITIME NAVIGATION END

AB291551 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1447 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Kinshasa, 29 Dec (AZAP) -- Citizen Nsinga Udjuu, executive secretary of the Popular Movement of the Revolution [MPR] and first state commissioner, yesterday received in audience at the Council Building Vselolod V. Beletskiy, Soviet vice minister of the maritime fleet, who informed him of the fruitful results of the third session of the joint Soviet-Zairian commission on maritime navigation, which ended this afternoon.

The Soviet vice minister said the talks had been held between the two delegations in a pleasant atmosphere. He expressed the hope that cooperation between the Soviet Union and Zaire will be strengthened. He conveyed to the founding chairman of the MPR, president of the republic, and to the Zairian people his best wishes for 1982.

Asked about world tension areas, particularly Chad and Poland, Beletskiy said that the Soviet Government's past, present and future policy is that each nation should resolve its internal problems without any outside interference.

Citizen Lengema Dulia, secretary of state for international cooperation, and Ivan Nartchouk, USSR ambassador to Zaire, were present at the audience.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AFTER TALKS WITH ANGOLA

AB301555 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1358 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Joint communique issued in Kinshasa on 29 December at the close of the second session of the Zaire-Angola joint commission, held 21-29 December in Kinshasa]

[Text] The second session of the Zaire-Angola joint commission was held in Kinshasa from 21 to 29 December 1981. The session's agenda featured several issues on cooperation between Angola and Zaire. These are:

1 - Economic and commercial affairs;
2 - Cultural and social affairs;
3 - Draft agreement on the creation of the joint commission on cooperation;
4 - Draft agreement on cultural and scientific cooperation between Angola and Zaire.

The delegation of the People's Republic of Angola was led by Comrade Paulino Pinto Joao Neto, secretary of state for cooperation, while the Zairian delegation was led by citizen Lengema Dulia Yubasa Makanga, secretary of state for international cooperation.

During their deliberations, the two delegations were inspired by the guidelines mapped out by Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, and by citizen Mobutu Sese Seko Ngendu Waza Banga, founding chairman of the MPR [Popular Movement of the Revolution] and president of the Republic of Zaire, on cooperation and neighborliness between the sisterly Republics of Angola and Zaire.

During the debates, the two parties demonstrated their willingness to resolve their problems through a permanent dialogue inspired by the historic bonds maintained for ages by the peoples of the two countries. After reviewing the results achieved since the last session in Luanda, the two delegations expressed satisfaction over the progress made.

[Words indistinct] concerning the definition of the word refugee. They also expressed their desire to intensify cooperation in areas of common interest including fishing, oil, merchant navy and trade.

Concerning trade, the two parties agreed to have competent services and organizations in both countries examine the possibility of creating a joint Zaire-Angolan fishing company as soon as possible.

In oil, experts of the Angolan oil company and of the Zaire oil company met and held wide-ranging discussions on sale conditions for Angolan oil and Zaire's derived products. As for merchant marine, the Angolan party invited the managing director of the Zairian shipping company to pay a working visit to the director general of the Angolan shipping company in Luanda during the second two weeks of January 1982.

In commerce, both parties agreed to hold a meeting between economic officials to attempt to coordinate the prices of their products.

In addition, several agreements were signed at the end of present session, that is, the agreement on the creation of the Zaire-Angola joint high commission for cooperation, the agreement for cultural and scientific cooperation between the Government of the People's Republic of Angola and the Executive Council of the Republic of Zaire.

The head of the Angolan delegation was received during his stay in Zaire by the first state commissioner, citizen Nsinga Udjuu Ongwakebi Untube, to whom he conveyed the cordial and brotherly greetings of Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, to citizen Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Waza Banga, founding chairman of the MPR and president of the Republic of Zaire. He also held talks with citizen Lengema Dulia Yubasa Makanga, secretary of state for international cooperation. He thanked the Zairian people and the Executive Council for the welcome and hospitality accorded him and his delegation during their stay in Zaire.

The next session of the joint high commission will be held in Luanda in 1982 at a date to be fixed by the two parties through diplomatic channels.

Signed in Kinshasa on 29 December 1981 by the secretary of state for international cooperation, Lengema Dulia Yubasa Makanga, for the Republic of Zaire and by the secretary of state for cooperation, Paulino Pinto Joao Ferreira Neto, for the People's Republic of Angola.

GHANA

RAWLINGS 31 DEC ADDRESS ANNOUNCES 'REVOLUTION'

AB311350 Accra Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 31 Dec 81

[Address to the nation by Flight Lieutenant J.J. Rawlings -- recorded]

[Text] Fellow Ghanaians, as you will notice, we are not playing the national anthem, in other words, this is not a coup. I ask for nothing less than a revolution -- something that will transform the social and economic order of this country. The military is not in to take over. We simply want to be a part of the decisionmaking process in this country. As a result of this, we are reinstating Brig Quainoo as the army commander and the former chief of staff, Brig Nunoo-Mensah.

Fellow countrymen, I am not going to bore you or take up your time by recounting a whole lot of callous things some of us have gone through. It is enough for us all to see -- 2 years of nothing but repression. When you talk about human rights, we realized human rights around the June 4th era till the 24th of September. When this country for once felt -- the masses of this country felt they could be a part of the decisionmaking process in this country. Right up to the handover, what have we had? Dismissals from the armed forces, divide-and-rule tactics sometimes to the point of getting soldiers to shoot themselves [words indistinct]. It might even interest you to know that just before Christmas, the military intelligence and the security agencies with the approval of Nabila [minister for presidential affairs and special services] told a deliberate lie again to the officers, that is, the soldiers were planning to eliminate, to annihilate officers, warrant officers all the way up to the brigadiers and the generals. This is absolutely untrue. We are not animals! We are asking for nothing more than the right to assert the dignity of humanity. The holy battle is not over! Fellow citizens, it is now left to you to decide how this country is going to go from today. We are looking up to you to give a national expression to your feelings. The soldiers fought; several of them died just for you. Now, as I have said, I am not here to impose myself on this country; far from it! We are asking for nothing more than proper democracy. We are asking for nothing more than to organize this country in such a way that nothing will be done from the Castle whether by God or the devil without the consent and the authority of the people. In other words, the people, the farmers, the police, the soldiers, the workers -- so long as you are the guardians -- rich or poor, should be a part of the decisionmaking process of this country and not just something to be done by a pack of criminals in the PNP [People's National Party] hierarchy.

There is only one more thing I have to say: I am prepared at this moment to face a firing squad if what I try to do for the second time in my life does not meet the approval of Ghanaians. In which case, you can ask the PNP to carry on misruling this country.

Fellow citizens of Ghana, I say again: we as soldiers are looking up to you to be a part of things. Let us see what you can do just this very minute! Today we initiated. We decided this at 0300 this morning a holy war [words indistinct]. No doubt the senior ones knew that it would be a popular affair. What did they do? They created the impression that we were being invaded by certain forces from other regions. This is absolutely untrue!

What has happened involved originally the [words indistinct] air force and most of the soldiers who are even volunteers from other units. It is now left to you, fellow soldiers, to realize that you have a responsibility to this country and that starts from now!

I therefore leave it to you to muster yourselves, to harness your minds so that we can project the intellectual and physical power of this Ghana: It might interest you to know that Ghana may not be that rich but it is the political life of Africa. That is the reason why all this campaign has been going on against Ghana, against June 4th [reference to the Rawlings coup in June 1979] because the instance they lose Ghana, in other words as soon as Ghana realizes an economic democracy, the rest of Africa will follow and we will be on the road to a continental unity and Africa will be next on the moon! So we have to be kept down by the divide and rule practice. I would like to take this opportunity to announce that there will be a people's defense organization next to a national defense organization. We are expecting Brig Nunoo-Mensah and Brig Arnold Quainoo to report to this camp [words indistinct] right now! We are expecting all ranks to assemble and arm themselves.

Fellow citizens of Ghana, let me repeat that the work of this country cannot be defended by soldiers alone or policemen alone or border guards for that matter. The work of this country will need to be defended by 14 million warriors that is by 14 million Ghanaian citizens. I would like to take this opportunity to warn you to be on your guard and, in the same way, I would like to provide a stern warning to any country outside Ghana who might want to attempt any kind of invasion. West Africa would burn! We in Ghana are prepared to die for our freedom! There is no justice in this society and so long as there is no justice, I would just say there shall be no peace. You will hear from me again.

Special Announcement

AB311213 Accra Domestic Service in English 1135 GMT 31 Dec 81

[Special announcement]

[Text] The following people are to report at the Ministry of Defense, Burma Camp, immediately. They are: Brig Nunoo-Mensah, Brigadier Quainoo and Colonel Asmah. All security agencies [words indistinct], that is, the millitary intelligence and the special branch are to report to the Recce Regiment. All MP's who think they need protection should report to the nearest police station. Border guards should ensure that all borders are sealed and they should keep vigilance along these borders. All officers, soldiers and policemen who have been jailed or dismissed since 24 September 1979 should be released and should report to their various (?barracks).

Flight Lieutenant J.J. Rawlings warns all other nations not to interfere in our attempt to rid this country of corruption. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings has appealed to all not to harm Dr Limann. Dr Limann is requested to stay in the (?state house).

'Holy War Continues'

AB311246 Accra Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 31 Dec 81

[Public announcement]

[Text] The holy war continues and it will be the responsibility of every citizen of this country and until a clean national character is restored in this sad nation of ours, there will be no peace. Stay by your radio sets for more announcements.

Radio Reports 'Heavy Shooting'

AB311400 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 31 Dec 81

[Text] This morning there was excitement at the GBC [Ghana Broadcasting Corporation] in Accra as the staff became apprehensive after hearing reports of heavy shooting in certain parts of Accra during the night.

The first indication that there was something amiss came when the staff saw the policemen who normally guard the GBC were extra alert. They closed part of the gate leading to the GBC and only allowed staff in after close scrutiny of their identity cards. Then at about 1000, heavy shooting was heard not too far from broadcasting house. This was followed by a brief interval during which some of the staff quickly left the yard for safety in nearby Nima or to walk home. Then the shooting resumed with ferocity. Staff in the GBC newsroom, where your observer found himself, lay flat on the floor at the second floor of the building to avoid any stray bullets.

At the height of the shooting, some journalists dared to look through the window and saw a heavy armored car belonging to the armed forces apparently chasing a police armored car. When the shooting subsided, those around saw Flight Lieutenant Rawlings driving to the yard and appealed to the staff not to panic. Then followed his broadcast.

NIGERIA

NPN LEADER DENIES PLAN EXISTS TO REMOVE SHAGARI

AB310715 Lagos NAN in English 0706 GMT 31 Dec 81

[Text] Port Harcourt, 30 Dec (NAN) -- A deputy national chairman of the NPN [National Party of Nigeria], Lullu Briggs, yesterday in Port Harcourt denied that a faction of the party was planning to remove President Shehu Shagari and some senators from office.

Addressing a news conference, Mr Briggs described the allegation credited to the national president of the GNPP [Great Nigeria People's Party], Alhaji Waziri Ibrahim, by a newspaper as a figment of his imagination.

Mr Briggs said that there was nothing wrong in the proposed alliance of the four parties because, according to him, it would enhance the unity of the country. What we are worried about is the emergence of a tribally based party, he said.

Mr Briggs, however, said that there were doubts that the alliance could succeed because Dr Nnamdi Azikiwe and Chief Obafemi Awolowo are strange bedfellows. Men don't easily change at 70. If in their youth they did not change their habits, I do not see how they can change now, he said.

NAMIBIA

NUJOMA SAYS NAMIBIANS REJECT CONTACT GROUP PLAN

AB301329 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] The Namibian people have absolutely rejected the proposals of the so-called contact group about the way of organizing elections in Namibia, the president of SWAPO of Namibia, Comrade Sam Nujoma, yesterday declared. In an interview given to the Yugoslav news agency in Luanda, Comrade Sam Nujoma qualified the double vote system proposed by the five Westen countries as nondemocratic and indicated that he would (?oppose) the proportional (?system).

President Sam Nujoma further pointed out that during the first general elections under international control, the Namibian people will win the elections and, in this case, independent Namibia will adopt a practicable policy for national reconstruction with the support of the nonaligned countries and the forces of the progressive world.

Commenting on the international policy in an independent Namibia, President Sam Nujoma said SWAPO will apply a nonaligned policy inside the country. Meanwhile, the president of SWAPO declared on the other hand that his movement was ready to sign a cease-fire with the racist regime of South Africa in order to allow the application of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 435 on the territory. South Africa is afraid of signing a cease-fire and will be defeated during the elections, Comrade Sam Nujoma added. The Namibian people will continue to intensify the liberation struggle until the total independence of the Namibian people is won under the sole and legitimate representative of the Namibian people, SWAPO of Namibia, President Sam Nujoma concluded.

SOUTH AFRICA

GOVERNMENT REJECTS UN CONDEMNATION ON CISKEI

LD310435 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 31 Dec 81

[Text] South Africa has rejected a statement by the United Nations Security Council condemning the independence of the Ciskei.

In a letter to the council president the South African foreign minister, Mr Roelof Botha, described the statement issued by the council on the 15th of this month as reprehensible. Mr Botha said the Security Council had no authority or jurisdiction to involve itself in this matter and accordingly the South African Government rejected the statement in toto.

BRIEFS

CHOLERA OUTBREAK -- The cholera outbreak in the natal south coast of South Africa is still spreading. The neighboring black national state of Kwasulu is thinking of opening up a third clinic in the Stanger-(?Mapumulo) area. The medical superintendent of the Stanger hospital, Dr Dokrat, says 43 cholera patients have been admitted to the hospital while 36 outpatients are receiving treatment. [Text] [Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 30 Dec 81 LD]

ZIMBABWE

FORMER GUERRILLAS MOVED TO BULAWAYO BARRACKS

AB310812 Paris AFP in English 0751 GMT 31 Dec 81

[Text] Bulawayo, 31 Dec (AFP) -- About 3,000 former guerrillas of Joshua Nkomo's liberation army have been transferred from a bush camp to a military barracks here over the last three days to be mustered out of the armed forces.

With the demobilization of the ex-members of Mr Nkomo's Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army (ZIPRA), only one camp of former guerrillas remains to be emptied -- on the Sabi River in central Zimbabwe, where several hundred men loyal to Prime Minister Robert Mugabe await their turn.

The ZIPRA men who moved to Bulawayo from the Gwai River mine camp, about 200 kms (125 miles) northwest of here, included some who had been at training camps in Libya and Angola when the bush war ended two years ago and who returned to Zimbabwe only in the past few months. Also in the contingent were former ZIPRA guerrillas from a failed agricultural experiment at Filabusi, southeast of Bulawayo. They had been moved to Gwai River after the scheme, called Soldiers Engaged in Economic Development (SEED), worked out badly.

The 3,000 men will be demobilized as part of Zimbabwe's efforts to trim its army from about 63,000 -- which includes ex-guerrillas from the Mugabe and Nkomo forces and soldiers from the old Rhodesian army -- to 40,000 men.

Other ex-guerrillas have been formed into integrated battalions with their former adversaries. Those who are demobilized -- and several thousand more will have to be in the course of the trimming exercise -- are given 185 Zimbabwe dollars (265 U.S. dollars) a month for two years together with educational and job training opportunities.

The Gwai dispersement was of particular interest because the camp had been a focal point of mutiny against the government during the disturbances around Bulawayo and in the southwest last February. But the government managed to disarm the ex-guerrillas in May, and since then no trouble had been reported at the disused mine.

BRIEFS

EMIGRATION FIGURES -- The latest emigration figures published in Salisbury show that during October this year 1,064 people left Zimbabwe to settle elsewhere. This is 300 more than the monthly average since independence in April last year, and most of the emigrants are believe to have been white. Observers say that many more may have left Zimbabwe as tourists with no intention of returning, as tourists get a larger allocation of foreign currency then emigrants. The increase in the number of people leaving the country is ascribed to political uncertainty. It is estimated that since independence 32,048 people have emigrated from Zimbabwe and that the white population, which stood at 277,000 in 1976, is now believed to be less than 190,000. [Text] [Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 18 Dec 81 CA]